WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A printhead capping assembly, comprising:

a cap holder defining a cavity and a vent exit; and

a printhead cap having a base and a lip portion extending from said base, said lip portion defining an open interior region, said base being inserted into said cavity of said cap holder, said base including a serpentine channel extending from said open interior region to said vent exit of said cap holder.

2. The printhead capping assembly of claim 1, said base having an outer sidewall portion, said serpentine channel being formed in said outer sidewall portion.

3. The printhead capping assembly of claim 2, wherein said serpentine channel spirals around said base of said printhead cap in said outer sidewall portion.

4. The printhead capping assembly of claim 2, wherein said serpentine channel spirals in a step-like manner around said base of said printhead cap in said outer sidewall portion.

5. The printhead capping assembly of claim 2, said base including a vent hole in fluidic communication with said open interior region, said serpentine channel defining a vent path from said vent hole at said open interior region of said printhead cap to said vent exit of said cap holder.

6. The printhead capping assembly of claim 5, said base having an upwardly extending wall surrounding said vent hole.

7. The printhead capping assembly of claim 1, wherein said serpentine channel has a length to width ratio, or a length to depth ratio, of 30:1 or larger.

8. The printhead capping assembly of claim 1, wherein said serpentine channel has a length to width ratio, or a length to depth ratio, of about 120:1.

9. A printhead cap, comprising a base and a lip portion extending from said base, said lip portion defining an open interior region, said printhead cap having a vent hole in fluidic communication with said open interior region, said base including a serpentine channel extending from said vent hole and around said base.

10. The printhead cap of claim 9, said base having an outer sidewall portion, said serpentine channel being formed in said outer sidewall portion.

11. The printhead cap of claim 10, said base having a first surface separated from a second surface, said vent hole being located at said first surface of said base, said base having a terminal opening located at said second surface of said base, said serpentine channel defining a vent path from said vent hole of said base to said terminal opening of said base.

12. The printhead cap of claim 9, wherein said serpentine channel has a length to width ratio, or a length to depth ratio, of 30:1 or larger.

13. The printhead cap of claim 9, wherein said serpentine channel has a length to width ratio, or a length to depth ratio, of about 120:1.

14. The printhead cap of claim 9, wherein said serpentine channel spirals in a step-like manner around said base of said printhead cap in an outer sidewall portion of said base.

15. The printhead cap of claim 9, said vent hole being formed in said base, said base having an upwardly extending wall surrounding said vent hole.

16. An ink jet printer, comprising:

a printhead; and

a printhead capping assembly to facilitate a capping of said printhead, said printhead capping assembly including:

a cap holder defining a cavity and a vent exit; and

a printhead cap having a base and a lip portion extending from said base, said lip portion defining an open interior region, said base being inserted into said cavity of said cap holder, said base including a serpentine channel extending from said open interior region to said vent exit of said cap holder.

17. The ink jet printer of claim 16, said base having an outer sidewall portion, said serpentine channel being formed in said outer sidewall portion.

18. The ink jet printer of claim 17, wherein said serpentine channel spirals around said base of said printhead cap in said outer sidewall portion.

19. The ink jet printer of claim 17, wherein said serpentine channel spirals in a step-like manner around said base of said printhead cap in said outer sidewall portion.

20. The ink jet printer of claim 17, said base including a vent hole in fluidic communication with said open interior region, said serpentine channel defining a vent path from said vent hole at said open interior region of said printhead cap to said vent exit of said cap holder.

21. The ink jet printer of claim 17, said base having an upwardly extending wall surrounding said vent hole.

22. The ink jet printer of claim 16, wherein said serpentine channel has a length to width ratio, or a length to depth ratio, of 30:1 or larger.

23. The ink jet printer of claim 16, wherein said serpentine channel has a length to width ratio, or a length to depth ratio, of about 120:1.